



U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION X

1200 SIXTH AVENUE
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98101

JUN 1985

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REPLY TO
ATTN OF: M/S 525

Ken Back
Washington Planning and Community
Affairs Agency
Ninth and Columbia Building
Olympia, Washington 98504

Dear Mr. Back:

This letter is to notify you of a proposed Superfund project to be funded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. This project is subject to the state intergovernmental review process. The 60-day comment period on this proposed action will begin five days after the date this letter is sent. Please address any comments on the proposed action to the EPA Project Officer listed below. The project is outlined below:

1. Site Name: U.S.D.A. Pesticide Laboratory
2. Location of Site: Yakima, WA
3. Site Rank: This site has been placed on the National Priorities List (40 CFR Part 300, Appendix B) established by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency pursuant to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980 (P.L. 96-510).
4. Nature of the Problem: Over the years, wastes from the pesticide storage/formulation/mixing buildings at the Central Washington USDA Experimental Laboratory have been disposed of into an on-site septic tank drain field. This has allowed the pesticides, including DDT, to permeate the soils and potentially contaminate the groundwater. Irrigation is the primary use of downstream surface and groundwater supplies. In February of 1985, a closure plan for the site was sent to the Washington Department of Ecology for review.
5. Description of Proposed Activities: This project would consist of a remedial investigation and feasibility study meeting the requirements of Section 300.68 of the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Contingency Plan (40 CFR Part 300). This will include, as appropriate, definition of the nature and extent of the problem at the site, characterization of the hazardous wastes present, a hydrogeological investigation, a soils and sediments investigation, a surface water investigation, the development of remedial response objectives, the identification of remedial action alternatives, evaluation and environmental assessment of the alternatives, cost analyses, recommendation of a cost-effective remedial alternative, conceptual design of the proposed alternative, and community relations activities.

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6. Community Relations Activities: Community relations activities will be conducted as part of this project to inform and receive input from public officials and the affected community. These will include preparing a community relations plan, distributing press releases, establishing a community relations repository, and conducting other activities as appropriate.

7. Estimated Cost: \$200,000

8. Projected Start Date: September 1985

9. Projected Completion Date for RI/FS: August 1986

10. State Project Officer:

Cathy Feole
Remedial Action Section
Washington Department of Ecology, PV-11
Olympia, Washington 98504
(206) 459-6352

11. EPA Project Officer:

Lori Cohen
U.S. EPA, M/S 525
1200 Sixth Avenue
Seattle, Washington 98101
(206) 442-2712

As indicated above, you will have 60 days after receipt of this letter to submit your comments. We would appreciate receiving an acknowledgement that the process has been completed even if there are no comments. Lori Cohen is available to assist you in any way during your review and can be reached at the above telephone number.

Sincerely,

Kathryn M. Davidson

Kathryn M. Davidson
Superfund Program Management Section

cc: Lori Cohen, EPA
Cathy Feole, WDOE
Jerry Jewett, WDOE